

Minutes for December 1, 2014 Special City Council Meeting

The Special Meeting of the Eureka City Council was called to order on December 1, 2014, at 5:00 p.m. by Mayor Opp in the councilroom of the Municipal Building with the following present: Mayor Opp, Councilmembers: Bertsch, Billotto, Goehring, Obenauer, Regula, Weisbeck and Finance Officer Ottenbacher. Also present was Librarian Susan Fischer, Claudia Merthan, Rosa Jundt and Monica Hilgemann, absent from the Library Board were Karen Mettler, Lisa Kauk and Jackie Mehlhaff.

A motion to approve the agenda with the following additions: Discuss 901 8th Street and Resident with Additional Dogs was made by Weisbeck and seconded by Regula. All voted Aye. Motion Carried.

The Mayor thanked the Library Board for joining the council to discuss combining the school and city library. The school would like a decision on combining the two within the next couple of weeks. Blue prints were handed out for the Librarian and the board members to review. Fischer mentioned, that there are 112 public libraries in the State and only 18 are actually combined with the school and for a particular reason. Fischer feels the library is an asset for the avid reader just as sports, golf or boating are an asset to others. Public and school libraries are governed by different laws and require each to meet the criteria. The City has a very good library with bylaws and several policies in force. The library currently houses 16,000 volumes, because Lenora Schick had graciously donated funds, giving the library \$5,000 a year to purchase books and the City council has continued with that budget. Books are withdrawn as needed because of book condition, poor circulation or the content of the books. Currently, the City library is set up with a children's section, young adult and an adult section, along with a movie section, which needs parent approval before students can check them out. There is also a delivery service to people, when they are sick or in the nursing home and assisted living. There was discussion on public restrooms, corridors being accessible, repairs, funding, coding books for an accelerated program, inventory, sharing monthly expenses, sharing librarians, who orders books, hours for public library, parking and ADA accessible. Merthan did not feel that there are many complaints for the current library location. Jundt did some research on combining libraries and it was suggested to allow several years for a smooth transition and there are a lot of hidden things that could become financial issues. Lisa Kauk joined the meeting at 5:36 p.m. and the library board left the meeting at 5:43 p.m.

Currently the City Council feels that the handicap accessible issues are being compensated for, the project has not been put in the budget, there are a lot of things to consider, including school and state regulations and do not want to make a quick decision. A motion was made by Regula and seconded by Obenauer not to combine the school and public library at this time. A roll call vote was taken. Bertsch yes, Billotto yes, Goehring yes, Obenauer yes, Regula yes and Weisbeck yes. Unanimous vote. Motion Carried.

After reviewing the plumbing code further in regards to the shut off valve located at 901 8th Street, an ordinance may need to be put in place stating that if a flow back water valve is discovered when work is being done then it should be replaced at that time. A letter will not be sent at this time and the water ordinances will be reviewed.

Information supplied to the City in regards to more dogs that allowed by City Ordinance was sent to the City Attorney.

A motion was made by Weisbeck and seconded by Bertsch to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m. All voted Aye. Motion Carried.

Mayor – Mark W. Opp

ATTEST:

Bobbi Ottenbacher- Finance Officer